

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FBIE-00 JUSE-00 CPR-01 SY-05

USSS-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /063 W

-----106593 190125Z /66

R 182230Z JUL 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4524

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2286

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, UR

SUBJ: CHERNYSHEV ASSAULT CASE

REF: USUN 2241 AND PREVIOUS

1. AFTER HAVING TOLD FBI JULY 12, COL CHERNYSHEV WOULD NOT BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW (SEE REFTEL, FIRST SECRETARY SHCHERBAKOV CALLED MISOFF GLENNON JULY 13 AND INVITED HIM TO SOVIET MISSION TO SEE COL CHERNYSHEV. MISOFF PROTESTED SAYING IT WAS FOR POLICE AND FBI TO TALK TO CHERNYSHEV; SHCHERBAKOV STATED "YOU COME SEE HIM THEN WE DISCUSS FBI AND POLICE VISIT." FOLLOWING CONSULTATION AT USUN AND WITH DEPT, MISOFF GLENNON ACCOMPANIED BY MISOFF MOLLER PROCEEDED TO SOVIET MISSION FOR 12 NOON MEETING.

2. ON ARRIVAL, SHCHERBAKOV USHERED MISOFFS TO PARLOR OFF LOBBY WHERE CHERNYSHEV WAS WAITING. IT WAS IMMEDIATELY NOTICABLE CHERNYSHEV HAD BEEN BADLY BEATEN UP. BOTH EYES WERE BLACKENED, HE HAD SCRAPES AND BRUISES ON HIS FACE, LIPS, AND HANDS. CHERNYSHEV SAID TWO WHITE YOUTHS ACCOSTED HIM ON EAST 73RD ST NEAR SECOND AVE ABOUT 9:00 PM ON JULY 7. YOUTHS TOLD HIM THEY WANTED HIS MONEY AND  
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THEN BEAT HIM UP BUT FLED WITHOUT ATTEMPTING TO TAKE HIS MONEY OR VALUABLES. CHERNYSHEV CLAIMED THERE WAS NO ONE ON THE STREET AND NO WITNESSES TO THE INCIDENT. CHERNYSHEV WAS ASKED WHETHER IN HIS WOUNDED CONDITION HE MADE HIS WAY TO THE NEARBY HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT OR TO THE SOVIET MISSION WHERE THERE IS A DOCTOR SINCE BOTH LOCATIONS ARE ALMOST EQUALLY DISTANT FROM WHERE THE ATTACK OCCURRED. CHERNYSHEV

SAID HE WENT HOME TO HIS WIFE, SINCE HIS RESIDENCE IS ALSO IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD. HIS EXPLANATION WAS THAT ALTHOUGH HE WAS "PHYSICALLY WOUNDED," HE FELT MORE "MORALLY WOUNDED." AT THIS POINT, SHCHERBAKOV ADDED THAT THE MISSION DOCTOR TREATED CHERNYSHEV THE FOLLOWING DAY. MISOFFS RECEIVED DISTINCT IMPRESSION CHERNYSHEV DID NOT REPORT ATTACK TO SOVIET MISSION UNTIL NEXT DAY.

3. SHCHERBAKOV ADVISED THAT CHERNYSHEV WOULD BE LEAVING SUNDAY, JULY 17, FOR SOVIET UNION TO OBTAIN FURTHER TREATMENT AND FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF REST. HE SAID CHERNYSHEV WAS SUFFERING FROM SEVERE HEADACHES. CHERNYSHEV EXPLAINED THAT HE WAS DUE FOR HOME LEAVE AND WOULD HAVE BEEN GOING HOME LATER IN THE SUMMER. HE SAID HE WOULD BE RETURNING AFTER HIS LEAVE AND RECOVERY.

4. AFTER EXPRESSING REGRETS AND SYMPATHY, MISOFFS EXPLAINED THAT THEIR VISIT SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED A SUBSTITUTE FOR INTERVIEWS WHICH POLICE AND FBI WERE REQUESTING. MISOFFS ASKED WHY POLICE OR USUN WAS NOT NOTIFIED OF THE ATTACK WHEN IT OCCURRED. SHCHERBAKOV'S ONLY REPLY WAS THAT CHERNYSHEV HAD NO HELPFUL DATA TO GIVE EXCEPT THAT HE WAS ATTACKED FROM BEHIND BY TWO WHITE YOUTHS WHOM HE COULD NOT FURTHER IDENTIFY. SHCHERBAKOV WAS THEN ASKED WHY POLICE AND FBI WERE NOT PERMITTED TO INTERVIEW CHERNYSHEV. HE REPEATED THAT CHERNYSHEV HAD LITTLE TO TELL AND THAT UNTIL

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NOW CHERNYSHEV COULD NOT TALK DUE TO THE CONDITION OF HIS MOUTH. CHERNYSHEV EXPOSED CUTS INSIDE HIS LOWER LIP TO SUPPORT THIS CONTENTION. DAMAGE TO MOUTH DID NOT APPEAR TO BE THAT SEVERE. ACCORDING TO SHCHERBAKOV, THE REASON HE WANTED MISOFF TO COME TO SMUN WAS TO HAVE AN AMERICAN OFFICIAL SEE CHERNYSHEV'S CONDITION BEFORE HE LEFT FOR MOSCOW, "OTHERWISE YOU WOULD SAY WE INVENTED THE INCIDENT."

5. MISOFFS INQUIRED WHETHER POLICE AND FBI WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED ACCESS TO CHERNYSHEV. SHCHERBAKOV ADVISED DECISION WOULD BE MADE BY HIS AMBASSADOR. HE SAID HE WOULD TELEPHONE WHEN AMBASSADOR RETURNED FROM LUNCH. AT 3:00 PM, JULY 13, SHCHERBAKOV CALLED TO SAY POLICE AND FBI COULD INTERVIEW CHERNYSHEV IF BOTH COULD COME TO SMUN AT 4:00PM. MEETING WAS ARRANGED.

6. COMMENT: MISOFFS, WHO DID NOT PROBE TOO DEEPLY, FEAR CREATING IMPRESSION THEY DOING WORK OF INVESTIGATIVE AGENCIES, NONETHELESS OF OPINION CHERNYSHEV STORY IS IMPROVISED ONE. HIS INJURIES ARE REAL BUT HIS ACCOUNT OF EVENTS ARE REASONING FOR HIS ACTIONS, COMPOUNDED BY

DELAY IN OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION TO USUN PLUS NO NOTIFICATION  
TO POLICE AND RELUCTANCE TO ALLOW US LAW ENFORCEMENT  
AUTHORITIES TO INTERVIEW HIM, ALL LEAVE ROOM FOR DOUBT  
CONCERNING WHY, WHERE AND AT WHAT TIME OF NIGHT BEATING  
OCCURRED. CHERNYSHEV WAS VERY SUBDUED DURING VISIT,  
WHICH WE ARE TOLD IS NOT AT ALL HIS NORMAL BEHAVIOR.

7. FBI AND NEW YORK POLICE REPORT THAT FOLLOWING THEIR  
INTERVIEW THEY HAD SAME OPINION OF CHERNYSHEV STORY.  
FACTS DEVELOPED BY POLICE AND FBI SAME AS MISOFFS  
EXCEPT IT WAS ADMITTED THAT SMUN WAS NOT AWARE OF  
THE ATTACK ON CHERNYSHEV UNTIL 8:00AM DAY FOLLOWING  
INCIDENT.

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## Message Attributes

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